REMARKS

In the last Office Action[1], the Examiner to took the following actions:

1) rejected claims 82-85 under 35 U.S.C. § 101;

2) rejected claims 1-9, 12, 13, 16, 22, 26, 27, 33-37, 41-49, 52, 53, 56, 62, 66, 67, 73-77, 82, 83, 87, and 90 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,801,610 to Malik ("*Malik*");

3) rejected claim 86 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to U.S. Patent No. 6,275,575 Wu et al. ("*Wu*");

4) rejected claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 23-25, 50, 51, 54, 55, and 63-65 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik*;

5) rejected claims 17 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,540,850 to Herr et al. ("*Herr*");

6) rejected claims 18-21 and 58-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik* in view of Kermani ("*Kermani*");

7) rejected claims 28-32 and 68-72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,163,692 to Chakrabarti et al. ("*Chakrabarti*");

8) rejected claims 38 and 78 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,638,434 to Gottlieb et al. ("*Gottlieb*");

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[1] The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

9) rejected claims 39, 79, and 84 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

unpatentable over *Malik* in view of *Gottlieb* and *Chakrabarti*; and

10) rejected claims 40, 80, 81, 85, and 89 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

unpatentable over *Wu* in view of *Gottlieb*.

By this amendment, applicants amend claims 1, 3, 6, 33, 34, 39-41, 43, 46, 73,

74, 79-87, 89, and 90. No new matter has been added

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 82-

85, as amended, are clearly directed to statutory subject matter. Accordingly,

Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103.

Independent claim 1, for example, recites a method for providing a conference

call, comprising:

> creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
> conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> detecting the conference call event created by the subscriber
> user; [and]
>
> automatically configuring a conference call based on the
> detected conference call event;

Malik, *Wu*, *Herr*, *Kermani*, *Chakrabarti*, and *Gottlieb*, alone or in combination, fail to

teach or suggest at least these elements of claim 1.

Malik discloses a system and method for automated conference call set up.

(Abstract). In *Malik*, a coordinator first sets up a call by contracting a service node, by,

for example, dialing a predetermined telephone number. Col. 5, lines 32-36. The

coordinator then enters information about the call, including the time and data of the

conference call, and the information is sent to a service control point, where the

information is then stored in a database. Col. 5, lines 36-41. The conference call can then be initiated by the service control point by contacting each participant stored in the database. Col. 5, lines 47-49. However, *Malik* does not disclose or suggest, for example, "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event."

Wu fails to sure the deficiencies of *Malik*. That is, *Wu* also fails to teach or suggest "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event."

Wu discloses a system that uses network based software application modules (i.e., contact lists, email, and calendars) to facilitate the setup and initiation of conference calls. Col. 2, lines 43-52. In *Wu*, a coordinator wishing to propose a conference call access a telephone conference setup application on the coordinating server device. Col. 10, lines 6-11. The coordinator then inputs the telephone conference information and the coordinating server sends out invitations. Col. 10. lines 11-26. When generating the invitations, the coordinating server may use associated participant information (i.e., attributes and schedules) stored in the coordinating device. Col. 5, lines 48-52. For example, the coordinator may import group members from a calendar application. See, Fig. 4B. However, *Wu* does not disclose or suggest, for example, "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event."

Herr fails to sure the deficiencies of *Wu* and *Malik*, because *Herr* fails to disclose or suggest "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event." *Herr* merely discloses a conference arrangement wherein, when a conferee is disconnected, a tone alerts the other conferees of the disconnection and the connection is reestablished automatically. (Abstract).

Kermani fails to sure the deficiencies of *Herr*, *Wu*, and *Malik*. Specifically, *Kermani* fails to teach or suggest "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event." *Kermani* merely discloses an apparatus for allowing a digital search of entries in a digital audio database wherein each audio entry in the database is converted into textual information and the textual information is associated with the particular entry. (Abstract).

Chakrabarti fails to sure the deficiencies of *Kermani*, *Herr*, *Wu*, and *Malik*. In particular, *Chakrabarti* fails to teach or suggest "creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event." *Chakrabarti* merely discloses a telecommunication network for making conference calls between mobile and non-mobile telephones wherein, when a disconnection is detected and determined to be unintentional, the connection is automatically reestablished. (abstract).

Gottlieb fails to sure the deficiencies of *Chakrabarti*, *Kermani*, *Herr*, *Wu*, and *Malik*, since *Gottlieb* fails to teach or suggest "creating, by a subscriber user on a user

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terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application" and "automatically configuring a conference call based on the detected conference call event." *Gottlieb* merely discloses a conference system that provides dial-out conference calls to participants using a virtual private network ("VPN") dialing plan. Accordingly, *Malik*, *Wu*, *Herr*, *Kermani*, *Chakrabarti*, and *Gottlieb*, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the features of amended claim 1.

Dependant claims 2-32, while different in scope than claim 1 and one another, are allowable due to at least their dependence from claim 1.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 33 is patentable over the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. For example, claim 33 includes,

> creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
> conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> detecting the conference call event created by the subscriber
> user that indicates when a conference call should be
> established between the subscriber user and participant
> users; [and]
>
> automatically configuring the conference call based on the
> detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Dependant claims 34-38, while different in scope than claim 33 and one another, are allowable due to at least their dependence from claim 33.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 39 is patentable over the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. For example, claim 39 includes,

creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
conference call event in a calendar application; [and]

automatically scheduling a conference call at a
predetermined time using the calendar application, wherein
scheduling includes identifying, without user intervention,
participant users that are to participate in the conference
call;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 40 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 40 includes,

receiving a message from a first server including instructions
for establishing a conference call between participant users
and a subscriber user that previously created a conference
call event in a calendar application on a second server,
wherein the second server automatically initiates
configuration of the conference call based on the subscriber
user's schedule by providing to the first server contact
information for the participant users and the message
includes the contact information;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 41 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 41 includes,

means for creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal,
a conference call event in a calendar application;

means for detecting the conference call event; [and]

means for automatically configuring a conference call based
on the detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Dependant claims 42-72, while different in scope than claim 1 and one another,

are allowable due to at least their dependence from claim 41.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 73 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 73 includes,

> means for creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal,
> a conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> means for detecting the conference call event previously
> created by the subscriber user that indicates that a
> conference call should be established between the
> subscriber user and participant users; [and]
>
> means for automatically configuring a conference call based
> on the detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Dependant claims 74-78, while different in scope than claim 73 and one another,

are allowable due to at least their dependence from claim 73.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claims 79 is patentable

over the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 79 includes,

> means for creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal,
> a conference call event in a calendar application; [and]
>
> means for automatically scheduling a conference call for a
> predetermined date using a calendar application, wherein
> the means for scheduling identifies, without user
> intervention, participant users that are to participate in the
> conference call;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 80 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 80 includes,

> means for receiving a message from a first server including
> instructions for establishing a conference call between
> participant users and a subscriber user that previously
> created in a calendar application on a second server,
> wherein the second server automatically initiates
> configuration of the conference call based on the subscriber
> user's schedule by providing to the first server contact
> information for the participant users and the message
> includes the contact information;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 81 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 81 includes,

> a first server for detecting a conference call event previously
> created by a subscriber user in a calendar application and
> automatically generating a first message based on the event,
> wherein the first message includes telephone numbers for a
> plurality of participant users identified by the first server;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 82 is patentable over

the cited art for at least at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 82 includes,

> creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
> conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> detecting the conference call event that was previously
> configured by the subscriber user; [and]
>
> automatically configuring a conference call based on the
> detected conference call event;

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which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 83 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 83 includes,

> creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
> conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> detecting the conference call event previously created by the
> subscriber user that indicates that a conference call should
> be established between the subscriber user and participant
> users; [and]
>
> automatically configuring the conference call based on the
> detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 84 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 84 includes,

> creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
> conference call event in a calendar application; [and]
>
> automatically scheduling a conference call for a
> predetermined time using a the calendar application,
> wherein scheduling includes identifying, without user
> intervention, participant users that are to participate in the
> conference call;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 85 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 85 includes,

> receiving a message from a first server including instructions
> for establishing a conference call between participant users
> and a subscriber user that previously created a conference

call event in a calendar application on a second server,
wherein the second server automatically initiates
configuration of the conference call based on the subscriber
user's schedule by providing to the first server contact
information for the participant users and the message
includes the contact information;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 86 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 86 includes,

creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
conference call event in a calendar application;

detecting the conference call event created by the subscriber
user; [and]

automatically configuring the conference call;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 87 is patentable over

the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to

claim 1. For example, claim 87 includes,

creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a
conference call event in a calendar application;

detecting the conference call event created by the subscriber
user that indicates a conference call to be established
between the subscriber user and participant users;

automatically configuring the conference call based on the
detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 89 is patentable over the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. For example, claim 89 includes,

> receiving a message from a first server including instructions for establishing a conference call between participant users identified by the first server and a subscriber user that <u>created a conference call event in a calendar application on</u> a second server, wherein the second server automatically initiates configuration of the conference call by providing to the first server contact information for the participant users and the message includes the contact information;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Although different in scope than claim 1, independent claim 90 is patentable over the cited art for at least reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. For example, claim 90 includes,

> means for creating, by a subscriber user on a user terminal, a conference call event in a calendar application;
>
> means for detecting the conference call event; [and]
>
> means for automatically configuring the conference call based on the detected conference call event;

which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1-87, 89, and 90 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 1-87, 89, and 90 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully point out that the final action by the

Examiner presented some new arguments as to the application of the art against

Applicant's invention. It is respectfully submitted that the entering of the Amendment

would allow the Applicants to reply to the final rejections and place the application in

condition for allowance.

Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the Amendment would place the

application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the
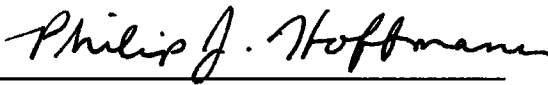
pending claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention,

as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art

references cited against this application. Applicants therefore request the entry of this

Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and

the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 17, 2009

By: *Philip J. Hoffmann*
Jeffrey A. Berkowitz
Reg. No. 36,743

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340